

MINUTES
McLEAN COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH
REGULAR MEETING – AUGUST 2, 2006

MEMBERS PRESENT: Berglund, Hon, Maitland, Powell, and Tello

MEMBERS ABSENT: Kerber, Steadman, and Willey

STAFF PRESENT: Keller, Anderson, Howe, Mayes, and Voss

PUBLIC PRESENT: Jane Turley, League of Women Voters

CALL TO ORDER: Berglund called the Board of Health meeting to order at 5:38 p.m., with no corrections to the agenda.

MINUTES: Berglund requested approval for the minutes of June 7, 2006.

Maitland/Tello moved and seconded to approve the minutes of June 7, 2006. Motion carried.

5:39 p.m. Hon arrived.

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. Bills to be Paid (May)		
Health Department	112-61	\$237,811.26
Dental Sealant	102-61	15,563.06
WIC	103-61	22,340.38
Preventive Health	105-61	3,443.54
Family Case Mngmt	106-61	56,707.57
AIDS/CD	107-61	11,522.01
2. Bills to be Paid (June)		
Health Department	112-61	\$239,766.36
Dental Sealant	102-61	5,374.63
WIC	103-61	26,347.99
Preventive Health	105-61	6,114.88
Family Case Mngmt	106-61	73,106.57
AIDS/CD	107-61	19,804.08

Tello/Powell moved and seconded to approve the Consent Agenda as printed. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: None

BOARD EDUCATION: Keller gave a brief description of strategic planning activities undertaken by the department's management staff over the past six months and distributed copies that provide a summary of the staff feedback to the environmental scan and an assessment that parallels the newly adopted Operational Definitions for a Functional Local Health Department . Keller will be emailing information to Board members for a self assessment with comments due within the next six weeks. This information will be used as a prelude to an updated strategic plan.

OLD BUSINESS: Keller requested approval for the CONTINUING GRANT, July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007, Genetics Education and Follow-up Grant, Illinois Department of Public Health in the amount of \$12,000. Keller noted that the grant funds .2 of an FTE public health nurse who is

responsible for arranging for genetic counseling. Tello inquired about how many referrals are made per year. Mayes noted that it is about 5 or 6 referrals per year.

Powell inquired if it was physician referrals only. Mayes replied that it is both physician and case manager referrals.

Maitland/Tello moved and seconded to approve the Genetics Education and Follow-up CONTINUING GRANT from IDPH in the amount of \$12,000. Motion carried.

Keller requested approval for the Vision and Hearing Program grant from, IDPH in the amount of \$5,500. Keller noted that this is a small grant where the department is reimbursed \$7.00 per screening for non-Public Aid eligible children. The screenings are conducted primarily in preschools.

Powell/Hon moved and seconded to approve the Vision and Hearing Program CONTINUING GRANT from IDPH in the amount of \$5,500. Motion carried.

Keller requested approval for the Western Avenue Community Center contract renewal in the amount of \$28,000, for interpretation and translation services. The hourly rate of \$22.00 provides mostly Spanish interpretation, but staff is also available for 3-way calling. Keller noted that federal regulations state that if an individual or organization accepts federal funds, such as Medicaid or Medicare, language can't be a barrier for services. The payment source for the Western Avenue contract is derived from FFP. Hon questioned whether or not the department has explored various telephone services. Keller explained that there are phone services that provide these interpretive services at a rate per minute. However, the nature of family case management and WIC services require long appointments and the need for face-to-face contact. The Western Avenue Community Center staff is trained as interpreters. They must be unbiased and learn not to advocate for a client nor interfere with the relationship between department staff and clients. Powell inquired whether or not such assistance is available at hospitals. Keller noted that phone services are used. AT & T formerly provided service and that has been changed to Optimal Voice.

Maitland/Powell moved and seconded to approve the contract with Western Avenue Community Center for interpretation and translation services in the amount of \$28,000. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS: None

DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Keller reported that at the September Board meeting the 2007 Budget will be presented.

Keller explained that staff has been working diligently to produce the deliverables for the Pandemic Flu grant, April 1 through August 31, 2006. An assessment was done and the 77 page pandemic flu response plan was mailed to IDPH on July 31, 2006. A regional table top exercise was held yesterday, Tuesday, August 1, 2006, which included participants from area hospitals, first responders, local police and fire, universities, businesses, and other local health departments such as Vermillion, Livingston, Woodford and LaSalle counties.

Keller reported that staff will be attending a Bioterrorism Summit in Oak Brook, August 7th through August 9th.

Keller explained that during the pandemic flu table top exercise several issues were discussed including: triaging patients, external alternative care sites, as well as isolation, and quarantine. Keller is pleased that several businesses are in various states of developing continuity of business plans relating to pandemic influenza. These include: State Farm and Country Insurance and

Financial Services. Keller also noted that businesses may have to have a plan in place as a condition for liability carriers.

Hon reported that there is a possibility of having H5N1 vaccine as early as next year with pricing under \$8.00. Keller stated that CDC guidelines would have to be developed and followed as to who would be identified as high priority.

Powell whether or not there were any more cases of H5N1 in humans. Keller noted that human cases are largely restricted to Asian countries and among rural residents engaged in poultry production. The virus is not highly pathogenic among humans and remains an avian virus. The World Health Organization taxonomy for pandemic influenza surveillance places the status of the pandemic somewhere between phase 3 and 4. Keller noted that many experts are unsure whether or not H5N1 is a likely candidate for the next pandemic. One Illinois Department of Public Health expert speculated that H2N2 might be a more likely candidate.

STAFF REPORTS: Anderson reported for the Environmental Health Division that staff is busy inspecting at the McLean County Fair. Within the food program 12 new establishments were proposed during the month of July.

Anderson explained that the West Nile virus mosquito surveillance process has been extended until the middle of September and the intern will be staying until then. Currently, there has been one positive pool and one positive crow and the first human case in Illinois was from St. Clair County. Last year there were four human cases in McLean County with two deaths. Tello inquired as to responsibility for inspecting swimming pools. Anderson noted that IDPH's regional office inspects public pools in the region, however the department investigates complaints on private pools. If it appears to be a problem where the pool could be harboring mosquitoes, the department would larvicide.

Hon inquired about decorative ponds and the problems that might result from those. Anderson explained that most decorative ponds have pumps which keep the water moving and mosquitoes will not lay eggs in moving water.

Keller added that bird baths that aren't cleaned frequently and flower pots at cemeteries can also pose a problem. Anderson noted that the intern can check out any problems if needed.

Howe reported for the Animal Control program and stated that recently there have been a several articles in the Pantagraph concerning cats and cat trapping in Normal. The Town of Normal worked with the local Sterile Feral Society to address the issues back in 2004 concerning stray cats. Sterile Feral picks up stray cats and spays or neuters them but returns them to their respective colonies. Trapping for cats has resulted in raccoons and possums being trapped. Animal Control has a meeting with the Town of Normal to address these issues.

Howe noted that the Administration Division has been working towards an E-Pay service for consumer convenience in paying vital record fees, animal control registration and reclaim fees, and food permits and geothermal permits. Staff hopes to begin using these services by September 1st.

Mayes reported for the Personal Health Services Division noting that there are still immunization appointments available. Dr. Caruso continues to work 3 days per week. The next available appointment for the dental hygienist is August 14th and the next available appointment for the adult dentist is August 25th.

The flu clinics already scheduled will probably be rescheduled sometime after the middle of November. Staff noted that the vaccine supply from one of the major producers may not be available until late October. Keller noted that the FDA inspections and also the Mercury Free Act in Illinois may play a role in the delay.

Keller reported that in the future the HPV vaccine might be added to the list of mandatory for females ages 11 to 17.

BOARD ISSUES: Berglund discussed the smoking restriction ordinance that will be considered by the County Board for unincorporated areas of McLean County. This ordinance will impact 268 businesses and 14 restaurants and bars. Berglund asked fellow members to write their County Board member requesting their vote in favor of the non-smoking ordinance. Berglund stated that she has a considerable amount of material that she picked up from NACo showing that smoking and second-hand smoke triggers asthma and other breathing difficulties in children. Tello inquired about the impact on businesses. Keller explained that as in other cities the businesses will find ways of coping with the ordinance. Maitland inquired about the incorporated areas. Keller indicated that each incorporated town or village would need to pass their own ordinances.

ADJOURNMENT: Tello moved and the Board of Health meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m